BILSTON ST LEONARD

Bilston [Seisdon] MANOR 1.4 (1086); 1332s; INDEPENDENT PAROCHIAL CHAPELRY [♦IPC] (to Wolverhampton College); St Leonard (Pevsner 1825-6); PRGR 1684+; Royal Peculiar of Wolverhampton; CONSTABLEWICK (1662)
Districts: Bradley

Bilston [Seisdon] *(St Leonard)* was probably an independent parochial curacy in the patronage of Wolverhampton College. ***John Taylor e1623-....*** was probably in office as parochial curate from 1663. The parish of one township was a simple parochial constablewick.

Parish History

The chapelry of **BILSTON ST LEONARD** was formed in 1447 to serve part (-----) of **WOLVERHAMPTON ST PETER**.

A chantry chapel was founded at Bilston St Leonard in 1458 but dissolved in 1548. In 1557 the building became a chapel-of-ease to Wolverhampton. George T. Lawley in A HISTORY OF BILSTON (1893) provides information on the Bilston clergy but his account is not reliable.

The parish of **BILSTON ST MARY** was in ?1830 formed from a part (-----) of **BILSTON ST LEONARD.**

In **1845** the parish of **MOXLEY** was created 1845 from parts of **BILSTON ST LEONARD, DARLASTON ST LAWRENCE** and **WEDNESBURY ST BARTHOLOMEW.**

The parish of **BILSTON ST LUKE** was in ?1846 formed from a part (-----) of **BILSTON ST LEONARD.**

Description of Church

A church, (in Church Street) dedicated to XXXXX, had been built by about 1458.

Another church, incorporating the base of the original tower, was built 1733 (largely at the expense of XXXXX) to designs by *ARCHITECT* and consecrated DATE.

The (new) church, was built 1825-6 (largely at the expense of local inhabitants and the government) to designs by *Francis Goodwin* and consecrated DATE

Type of incumbent

	....-1660
Minister (of Presbtery) (Feb 1644-29 May 1660)	1644-1660
	1660-....
Perpetual Curate	....-1868
Vicar	1868-....

Patrons

Parish Registers

The register of St Leonard, Bilston, commences in 1684. The original registers for the period 1684-1988 (Bapts), 1747-1754 & 1841-1984 (Mar) & 1727-1955 (Bur), and Banns for the period 1935-1949 are deposited at Staffordshire Record Office.
Baptisms for 1694-1746 and Burials for 1727-1740 are recorded in the Churchwardens & Constables Account Books, 1669-1733 which are also deposited at Staffordshire Record Office.
Bilston marriages were performed in the mother church of Wolverhampton, St Peter between 1754-1841 and are recorded in that register. Bishops Transcripts, 1799-1835 (with gap 1827, Bapts & Bur only) are deposited at Lichfield Record Office. Marriages are included in the Wolverhampton BTs. A transcript of the St Leonards registers for the period 1684-1746 (Bapts & Bur) was published by the Staffordshire Parish Register Society in 1938 and has been reprinted by the Birmingham & Midland SGH. [GENUKI]

Bells

Special References

►**Thomas Hecock c1428-1480** **1458-c1480**
d c1480
(Chantry Priest, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
- (to be appointed) 1458 [LAWLEY 25-6]
- (in office) 1475 [LAWLEY 27]

►**Robert Dudley c1455-1494** **....-1494**
d *at an early age* 1494
(had a brother Clement Dudley)
(Chantry Priest, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
(author of sermons)
(Prebendary, Wolverhampton Monmore, Staffs)
[LAWLEY 28]

►**Richard Wrottesley e1455-....** **?1495**
(Chantry Priest, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
- (in office whilst John Morgan was Dean of Windsor & Wolverhampton, 1484-95)

►**Edward Baker c1488-1540** **1533-1540**
d 11 Apr 1540 [LAWLEY 30]
(Chantry Priest, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1533-?d
- (paid a tax of 5/4) 1533
- (in office, as Chantry Priest) 1535 [OLIVER 60]
(as Sir Edward Baker priest aged 50 years) 17 Jan 1537.8 [SHC 1912 108]

►**William Massye e1508-....** **1543-1548**
(Chantry Priest, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 24 Apr 1543-1548
- (paid first fruits) 24 Apr 1543
- (had a salary of £5/3/3 and was granted a pension of £5) 1548
- (living in the priest's mansion house) Feb 1548.9
(Vicar Choral, Tettenhall Codsall, Staffs)
- (had a salary and pension of £4) 1548
- (had a pension of £5)
- (subscribed) 1559

Examined into the state of the Chantrie of St Leonard's called Erdington's Chantrie, Bilston. Its income is very small, and the priest, guilty of unlawful practices; we have, therefore, commanded that it be dissolved. [Commisioners quoted by LAWLEY 30]

VACANT **1548-1557**

►Clement Perry c1506-c1559 **1557-c1559**
b c1506 *son of William Perry of "The Corner House", Bilston*
d ?c1559
(ordained deacon) 14 Feb 1531.2
(Acolyte, Halesowen Monastery)
(Parochial Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
- (appointed) 1557
[LAWLEY 33-4]

►John Lee {Atte Lee} c1508-c1594 **c1560-c1594**
d c1594
(a kinsman of Hugh Lee (King's Bailiff))
(Vicar Choral, Wolverhampton Kinvaston, Staffs)
- (paid a tax of 6/2½, but prebend unnamed) 1533
- (on dissolution had a salary and a pension of £5) 1548
(Stipendiary Curate, Wolverhampton St Peter, Staffs)
- (paid a subsidy of 6/8) 1560
(Parochial Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) c1560-d
- ("He was a strong protestant and made great changes in the service much to the annoyance of George Carew the Popish Dean of Windsor and Wolverhampton") [LAWLEY]
[LAWLEY 34]

►John Robins c1566-1629 **c1596-1629**
i 20 Mar 1629 *in our Lady's Chancel* Wolverhampton St Peter [LAWLEY 37, PR defective]
(educated at Windsor)
(Prebendary, Wolverhampton Monmore, Staffs) ?1623-d
- (in office) ?1623
(Parochial Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) c1596-d
- (held the office for nearly 34 years) [LAWLEY 37]

1629-....

Richard Hincks (presbyterian minister of Tipton) e1622-1683 **R24**
Hincks, born perhaps about 1622, is of unknown parentage. He was probably only educated to literate grade.
He was presumably ordained as a presbyterian clergyman about 1650 when he was in office as presbyterian ?assistant minister of Pensax, Worcs. On 25 Jun 1651 he was appointed presbyterian assistant minister of Wolverhampton. In Winter 1651.2 he was presbyterian minister of Bilston parochial curacy and in 1652 presbyterian minister of Tipton parochial curacy. In 1648 the royalist ironmaster Dud Dudley ALIAS Tomlinson of Tipton gentleman c1599-1684 absconded and his estates were probably sequestered. Perhaps after 1652 Hincks purchased one of these estates but at the restoration in 1660 the purchase was declared fraudulent rendering Hincks insolvent. By late 1656 as "Minister at Tipton" he was a member of the *Worcestershire Association.* On 25 Mar 1659 Hincks was in receipt of a quarterly payment of an augmentation to his salary of £10. In Oct 1659 he is said to have assisted in raising soldiers for the army of parliamentary general John Lambert 1619-1684 who attempted (unsuccessfully) to stop George Monck (*later* 1st Duke of Albemarle) 1608-1670 - then in favour of the restoration of the monarchy - marching on London. In Jun 1660 he continued in office as *de facto* parochial curate. In a petition from Tipton to the Crown dated 7 Jan 1660.1 he is described "as a person notoriously disaffected to His Majesty and his government". Subsequent proceedings at Stafford Assizes continued until 21 Jul 1662 when he was acquitted as not guilty. On 24 Aug 1662 he did not subscribe to *The act of uniformity* and was thus to be

deprived from Tipton. On 20 Jan 1662.3 John Taylor e1623-1673 was licensed as parochial curate of Tipton. He probably also served as parochial curate of Bilston. At Tipton Taylor is said to have allowed Hincks "to live in the parsonage-house, upon easy terms". In fact as a parochial chapelry Bilston would not have had a parsonage (as such) so that the house involved may have been Taylor's personal property. In 1665 Hincks was assessed on 4 hearths at Tipton. On 6 Sep 1665 Robert Greville 4th Baron Brooke of Beauchamps Court c1638-1677 (then Lord Lieutenant of Staffordshire) reported that he had "secured" four ejected ministers in Staffordshire - John Nott 1625-1702 **QV**, Hincks, Richard Hilton c1625-1706 **QV** and William Fincher c1628-1691 **QV**. In 1669 Hincks was probably a presbyterian preacher at Darlaston and at Sedgley (where he is called William). On 5 Sep 1672 he was licensed as a congregational teacher and his house at Tipton was certified as a congregational meeting-place. After Taylor's death in 1673 Hincks moved to the parish of Old Swinford, Worcs where he likely lived in the township of Stourbridge. Hincks died, probably aged about 61, and was buried on 22 Dec 1683 at Old Swinford. He married on 29 Nov 1652 Tipton: Elizabeth Clare (d 1684) by whom he had 7 sons. *Calamy* records in 1727 "And tho before the Change of the Times he was warm and hot yet he then became very cool and moderate and ... died in great Amity with Christians of various Denominations in the County of Stafford".

Richard Hincks (presbyterian minister of Tipton, Staffs) e1622-1683
m 29 Nov 1652 Tipton: Elizabeth Clare; i 13 Jan 1683.4 Old Swinford, Worcs
i 22 Dec 1683 Old Swinford, Worcs; Will XXX (Lichfield/PCC)
(presbyterian assistant minister, Wolverhampton St Peter, Staffs) 25 Jun 1651-1651
- (appointed) 25 Jun 1651
(presbyterian minister, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) Winter 1651.2
- (in office) Winter 1651.2
[? - (ejected) 1662]
(presbyterian minister, Tipton St John, Staffs) 1652-24 Aug 1662
- (in office) 1652
- (did not subscribe to the Act of Uniformity, and thus ejected) 24 Aug 1662
("Minister at Tipton", Member, Worcestershire Association) 1656
(4 hearths) 1665 [1666 HT]
(as a congregationalist, licensed to teach in his own house at Tipton) 1672
(later lived at Old Swinford or Stourbridge)
chn: Richard Hincks b 13 Oct 1653 Tipton; i 30 May 1664 Tipton
Joseph Hincks b 5 Apr 1656 Tipton
Obadiah Hincks b 28 Feb 1657.8 Tipton
Roger Hincks b 1 Nov 1660 Tipton; i 24 Nov 1660
Daniel Hincks b 24 Nov 1661; c 5 Dec 1661 Tipton
John Hincks c 12 Feb 1665.6 Tipton; i 13 Feb 1665.6 Tipton
Samuel Hincks b 25 Aug 1667; c 14 Sep 1667 Tipton

(1661) Richard, the Son of Richard Hincks & Elizabeth his wife, was borne the 13th day of October, Anno Domn., 1653. ... Joseph, the Son of the said Richard & Elizabeth Hincks, was born the 5th day of Aprill, Anno Dom., 1656. ...
Obadiah, Son of the said Richard & Eliza. Hincks, was born the 28th day of February, Anno Dom., 1657. ... Roger, the Son of the said Richard & Eliz. Hincks, was born the first day of November and buryed the 24th day of the same month, Anno Dom., 1660. ... Daniel, the Son of the said Richard & Eliz. Hincks, was born the 24th day of November, Anno Dom., 1661. [Tipton printed parish register 63]
Richard Hin(c)ks, Minister at Tipton (Staffs.): ejected; lic. as Congreg. 1672; d. 1683: *C.R.* [WA1656] [Nuttall (1950)]
Two entries from Worcestershire bishops transcripts ... parish not identified
[? Mr R]ichard Hinckes buryed 22th Dec [?1683]
Elizabeth Hinckes widow buryed 13 Jan [?1683.4]

(6 Sep 1665) Lord Brooke, 6 Sept. 1665, reported that he had 'secured' in Staffordshire four ejected ministers, Nott, Hincks, Hilton, and Fincher (ib. 132. 39). [John Nott (Sheriff Hales), Richard Hinks (Tipton), Richard Hilton, (West Bromwich); William Fincher (Wednesbury)] [Calamy Revised (1934) p368, under Nott] [State Papers Domestic Charles II cxxxii 132 39]
(1702) Tipton: Mr. *Richard Hincks*. A Godly Preacher; a Moderate Independent [Calamy (1702) p]
(1713) STAFFORD Tipton Mr Richard Hinks A Godly Preacher a moderate Independent [Calamy (1713) p624]
(1727) Pag 624 TIPTON Mr RICHARD HINKS Add Before the Restoration he not a little offended his neighbouring Ministers and some good People too by his rigorous Notions and his assisting in raising Soldiers for Lambert against Monk And he was also so unhappy as to buy an Estate that was Col Dudley's when he absconded for his Service to the King which he purchas'd of Strangers who produc'd a Writing so very like the Colonel's Hand that there was not the least Suspicion of a Fraud The Colonel returning with the King denying that the Writing that had been produc'd was under his Hand had his Estate again And poor Mr Hinks by railing

Money for his Purchase had so cast himself in Debt that when he was ejected he was utterly insolvent He had a Wife and many Children but GoD provided for him His Successor Mr John Taylor suffer'd him to dwell in the Parsonage house upon easy Terms tho he preach'd there in the Time of Publick Service He was afterwards imprison'd for his Preaching And tho before the Change of the Times he was warm and hot yet he then became very cool and moderate and after Mr Taylor's Death leaving Tipton he liv'd in and near Old Swinford or Stourbridge and died in great Amity with Christians of various Denominations in the County of Stafford [Calamy (1727) p768-9]
(1778) TIPTON C or D Mr Richard Hinks A godly preacher and a moderate Independent Before the Restoration he offended his neighbouring ministers and other good people by his rigorous notions and by affisting in raising foldiers for Lambert against Monk He was alfo fo unhappy as to buy an estate that was Col Dudley's when he abfconded for his fervice to the King The Colonel returning with the King denying that the writing produced was under his hand had his eftate again Mr Hinks by raifing money for this purchase had fo involved himself in debt that when he was ejected he was utterly infolvent He had a wife and many children but God provided for him His fucceffor Mr John Taylor fuffered him to live in the parfonage house upon easy terms tho he preached there in the time of public fervice He was afterwards imprisoned for preaching and tho before the change of the times he was very hot he then became very cool and moderate After Mr Taylor's death he removed to Old Swinford or Stourbridge and died in great amity with Chriftians of various denominations
(1778) TIPTON [C. or D.] Mr. Richard Hinks. A godly preacher, and a moderate Independent. Before the Restoration he offended his neighbouring ministers, and other good people, by his rigorous notions, and by assisting in raising soldiers for Lambert against Monk. He was also so unhappy as to buy an estate that was Col. Dudley's when he absconded for his service to the King. The Colonel returning with the King, denying that the writing produced was under his hand, had his estate again. Mr. Hinks, by raising money for this purchase, had so involved himself in debt, that when he was ejected he was utterly insolvent. He had a wife and many children, but God provided for him. His successor, Mr. John Taylor, suffered him to live in the parsonage-house, upon easy terms, tho' he preached there in the time of public service. He was afterwards imprisoned for preaching; and tho' before the change of the times he was very hot, he then became very cool and moderate. After Mr. Taylor's death he removed to Old Swinford or Stourbridge and died in great amity with Christians of various denominations [Calamy (1778) p404]
(1803) TTPTON [C. or D.] Mr. RICHARD HINKS. A pious preacher, and a moderate Independent. Before the Restoration he offended the neighbouring ministers, and other good people, by his rigorous notions, and by assisting in raising soldiers for Lambert against Monk. He was also so unhappy as to buy an estate which belonged to Col. Dudley, when he absconded to serve the King. The Colonel on his return with his majesty denyed that the writing produced was under his hand and recovered his estate. Mr. Hinks, by raising money for this purchase, had so involved himself in debt, that when he was ejected he was utterly insolvent. He had a wife and many children, but God provided for him. His successor, Mr. John Taylor, suffered him to live in the parsonage-house, upon easy terms, tho' he preached there in the time of public service. He was afterwards imprisoned for preaching; and tho' before the change of the times he was very hot, he then became cool and moderate. After Mr. Taylor's death he removed to Old Swinford or Stotirbridge, and died in great amity with Christians of various denominations. [Calamy III (1803) p243]
(1900) (1659) Richard Hinkes of Typton (three months to same date) [1659, March 25] £2/10 [Shaw (1900) II p594-5, augmentations)
(1911) [Turner (1911) p] Hinks, Richard ST. (P), 748; (C), 752 ... 748 Darlaston (4) one Hincks (tr) Richard Hinks 1669 **R197** also pg at Sedgeley
749 Sedgely (3) William Hinks 1669 **R197 ...** 752 Tipton (1) Richard Hinks (tr) i 1669 ~~**R167**~~ Pg at Darlaston; ii 1672 **E249** L.I. Sep 5 1672...
(2) Richard Hinks's House (m.pl.) 1672 **E243** LI Sep 5 1672 ... (1669) [Parishes & Conventicles there] **R197** Darlaston att the houses of Willm Bayley yem, Willm Keeling, Willm Penson ... [Sects] ... [Numbers] 1 or 200 [Qualitie] ... [Heads & Teachers] Willm Fincher, Willm Turton, one Hincks, Henry Osland, one Keeling, one Read **R197** Sedgley ... presbyterian ... Henry Osland, Willm Hinks **E243** The house of Rich Hinkes of Supton[sic] in Stafforsh. Congr. Sept 5th 1672 **E249** Licence to Rich Hinks of Supton[sic] to be a congregational teacher. Sept 5th 1672
(1915) 4 Hinckes. Assistant minister at Wolverhampton 1651, minister at Bilston chapel 1651, married here 29 Nov [1652 Tipton] Eliz. Clare; their children registered as born here till 1661; received an augmentation of £10 from the trustees in 1656 (LMS 972 p532, 616; Shaw, II p595); increased to £20 by 1658 (LMS 981 p20; 994 p142); ejected 1662, but allowed to live on at the vicarage; two sons buried here 1664, 1665; died at Stourbridge (Calamy). [SHC 1915 p289]
(1917) XXX [Gordon (1917) p]
(1924) Richard Hinckes [Hinks]. P.C., Tipton, 1652-62. 1651/2 chaplain Bilston chapel. Assisted in raising soldiers for Lambert against Monk. Lived at Tipton parsonage after his ejection from curacy. After 1673 removed to Stourbridge, where he died. [Matthews (1924) p85-8] [? ejected from Tipton and Bilston]
(1934) HINCKS, RICHARD. Curate of Tipton, Wolverhampton. 1660. There 1652. Congregational. (W.S.A.S. 289: Gal. 624, 768.) C. of Pensax, Worcs., in 1650 (L.P.S. 16. 449). Assistant minister at Wolverhampton, 25 June 1651, as C. of Bilston (S.P. 22. 2. 518: W.S.A.S. 289). Petition against him from Tipton to King and Council, 7 Jan. 1660-1, as a person notoriously disaffected to His Majesty and his government: referred to local justices (P.C. Reg. 2. 55. 94). Cited at Stafford Assizes, 14 March 1660-1, bound from previous Assize to prosecute traverse of 3 indictments for seditious words: continued to appear until 21 July 1662 when acquitted as not guilty (Ass. 2. I). 'Before the Restoration, he not a little offended his neighbouring Ministers, and some good People too, by his rigorous Notions, and his assisting in raising Soldiers for Lambert against Monk: And he was also so unhappy as to buy an Estate that was Col. Dudley's, when he absconded for his Service to the King, which he purchas'd of Strangers, who produc'd a Writing so very like the Colonel's Hand, that there was not the least Suspicion of a Fraud. The Colonel returning with the King, denying that the Writing that had been produc'd was under his Hand, had his Estate again: And poor Mr. Hinks by raising Money for his Purchase,

had so cast himself in Debt, that when he was ejected, he was utterly insolvent. He had a Wife and many Children; but God provided for him. His successor Mr. John Taylor suffer'd him to dwell in the Parsonage-house upon easy Terms, tho' he preach'd there in the Time of Publick Service. He was afterwards imprison'd for his Preaching. And tho' before the Change of the Times, he was warm and hot, yet he then became very cool and moderate; and after Mr. Taylor's Death, leaving Tipton, he liv'd in and near Old Swinford or Stourbridge, and died in great Amity with Christians of various Denominations.' John Taylor committed suicide at his brother's house, Blymhill, 1673. 1669, preaching at Darlaston and Sedgley. Licensed (C.), at his house, Tipton, 5 Sept, 1672. Buried at Old Swinford 22 Dec. 1683. Widow Hincks buried there 13 Jan. 1683-4. Married, 29 Nov. 1651, at Tipton, Eliz. Clare. Children ~~bap.~~ at Tipton—Obadiah, 1658: Daniel, 1661: John, 1665: Samuel, 1667. Baxter calls him 'a Godly Preacher; a moderate independent' (R.B. iii. 93).[Calamy Revised (1934) p267-8]

?Vacant ***166o-1662***

John Taylor (parochial curate of Bilston and Tipton) 1620-1673 **125**

Taylor, christened on 13 Aug 1620 at Blymhill, was a son of William Taylor of Blymhill c1590-.... and Alice. He was probably only educated to literate grade. He was presumably qualified to be a presbyterian clergyman before Feb 1646 when he is said to have been in office as minister of Dudley St Thomas. At Dudley he may have resigned before 24 Aug 1662 perhaps to avoid subscribing to the *Act of uniformity.* However he lived at Dudley for the rest of his life. He was presumably anglicanly ordained deacon by 20 Jan 1662.3 when after probable presentation by the prebendary of Lichfield Pipa Minor *then* Henry Greswold c1628-1700 he was licensed parochial curate of Tipton. On 14 Apr 1663 he was also appointed reader of Tipton. In 1665 he certified the hearth tax for Tipton constablewick but was not assessed there. Taylor is said to have allowed his predecessor at Tipton - Richard Hinks c1622-.... (a congregationalist) - to live in the “parsonage house” and Hinks was assessed on 4 hearths that year. As a parochial chapelry Tipton would not have had a parsonage (as such) so that the house involved was probably the one mentioned in Taylor’s will. Hinks had also been parochial curate of Bilston and Taylor appears to have also, *jointly*, succeded him here for in 1665 he also certified the hearth tax for Bilston constablewick but was not assessed there. At Bilston he was replaced in office before Aug 1668. In May 1673 Taylor committed suicide by hanging at his brother’s house in Blymhil. He died, aged 53, and was buried there at Blymhill on 24 May. His will made between 22 Nov and 13 Dec 1671 was proved under *PCC* on 10 Nov 1673. His personalty (? and realty) was said to be valued at £3,000. Taylor married first on 5 or 8 Jan 1658.9 at Dudley to Martha Wilmer dau of Thomas Wilmer of Dudley, Worcs c1593-.... and Martha Dudley ALIAS Tomlinson (b 1629) illeg. dau of Edward Dudley 5th Baron Dudley 1567-1643 by whom he had 3 sons. He married second on 24 Sep 1666 at Dudley to Mary Payton dau of Thomas Payton by whom he had 2 sons. In a codicil, dated 13 Dec 1671, to his will Taylor bequeathed a rentcharge of £1/5/0 (on “Cockshutt peece” in Sedgley) “for the advantage of learning in the newly erected Schole at Blimhill”. In May 1673 Philip Henry (presbyterian minister) 1631-1696 made the following entry in his diary:

> (1673) May. Mr. John Taylor Minr near Dudley in Staffordsh. having been for a while a Non-conf. afterw. did all & was præsented to a living by the lord Ward, upon the marriage of a 2nd wife whom tis said hee had £1500. hee was a very covetuous, penurious man, wrote deeds & bonds & took the common pay for doing it. This man in this month came to his Brother's house in Blimhill parish near Weston and there hangd hims. in the chamber whre hee lay, with a hat-band upon a Bucks-horn, A paper was left by him upon the Table with the words therein written, Blame no man for my Death, you know my hand-writing, So I cease to bee, John Taylor. I have been an evil doer but hope to find mercy with God for Christ his sake. Tis said having skil in the law, hee had so disposd of his p'sonal estate being £3000 that the law could take no hold of it. this I had from Mr Malden who had it from Mr Wood, who was there and saw him hang in the place.

John Taylor (parochial curate of Bilston and Tipton) 1620-1673
c 13 Aug 1620 Blymhill *son of William Taylor of Blymhill, Staffs c1590-.... and Alice (-----)*
m1 5 or 8 Jan 1658.9 Dudley: Martha Wilmer dau of Thomas Wilmer of Dudley, Worcs c1593-.... and Martha
Dudley ALIAS Tomlinson illeg. dau of Edward Dudley 5th Baron Dudley 1567-1643; c 17 Sep 1629 -----
m2 *as clarke* 24 Sep 1666 Dudley: Mary Payton dau of Thomas Payton

i 24 May 1673 Blymhill; Will (PCC) 22 Nov & 13 Dec 1671/10 Nov 1673
(Parochial Curate, Tipton St John, Staffs) 20 Jan 1662.3
- (appointed Curate & Preacher) 20 Jan 1662.3
- (appointed [?licensed as] Reader) 14 Apr 1663
- (signed parish register) 1665
- (as Minister, certified the hearth tax but not assessed) 1665 [1666 HT]
- (replaced in office) 7 May 1675 [CCEd]

(Parochial Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) ?1663
- (appointed) ?1663
- (as Minister, certified the hearth tax but not assessed) 1665 [1666 HT]
- (replaced in office) aAug 1668

NOTE: No relevant entries in parish register for Bilston or Tipton

chn: John Taylor b 30 Mar 1660 PR; c 1 Apr 1660 Dudley
Joseph Taylor c 24 May 1664 Dudley
Joseph Taylor c 31 Aug 1665 Dudley
[2] Samuel Taylor b 18 Apr 1668 PR; c 28 Apr 1668 Dudley
Daniel Taylor c 16 Nov 1669 Dudley

In 1648, after the Civil War, when St. Edmund's Church had been demolished, the parish of St. Edmund and the parish of St. Thomas came together and St. Thomas's Church became the parish church. The church was in need of repair, and so people from both parishes ensured that the work was carried out. From then-on they all went to services at St. Thomas's. The vicar at the time was Mr. John Taylor who moved into the vicarage in February 1646 [INTERNET]
(8 Jan 1658.9, Dudley) John Taylor clerk minister of Dudley and Martha Wilmer [FREE.REG]
(1 Apr 1660, Dudley) John son of John Taylor and Martha b 30 Mar 1660 (chr) [FREE.REG]
(24 May 1664, Dudley) Joseph son of John Taylor clarke and Martha "Borne the first day of May aboute 2 of the clocke in the morninge" [FREE.REG]

(24 Sep 1666, Dudley) Mr John Taylor clarke and Mary dau of Thomas Payton
(1670) Conveyance by John Taylor of Dudley, clerk and Mary, his wife in trust for the poor, for the repair of the highway and the Grammar School after John Taylor's decease. Land (c. one acre) (abuttals) in Pecoxfield (newly inclosed) and some land of the Hon. Edward Ward. [Dudley Archives and Local History Service DGS/VIII/2/1]
(22 Nov 1671) John Taylor of Dudley Worcester clerk ... two brothers Francis Taylor and Henry Adams ... £20 ... for the advantage of learning in the newly erected Schole at Blimhill ... yonger sonn Edward Taylor ... my Messuage or Tenement in Tipton now or late in possession of Samuel Whithouse ... [a bequest of £400] ... eldest sonn Samuell ... wife Mary [executor] ... brother Richard Taylor ... sister Margery Adams children ... sister Ann Rockes children ... children of my brother in law John Bradley (13 Dec 1671) A Codicill ... [cancels previous bequest of £20] a new close [in] Sandwall field in Sedgley ... Cockshutt peece [4 acres] ... rentcharge of [25/0]
(24 May 1673, Blymhill) John Taylor {clerke, inserted over} was buried May 24 73.
(1673) May. Mr. John Taylor Minr near Dudley in Staffordsh. having been for a while a Non-conf. afterw. did all & was præsented to a living by the lord Ward, upon the marriage of a 2nd wife whom tis said hee had £1500. hee was a very covetuous, penurious man, wrote deeds & bonds & took the common pay for doing it. This man in this month came to his Brother's house in Blimhill parish near Weston and there hangd hims. in the chamber whre hee lay, with a hat-band upon a Bucks-horn, A paper was left by him upon the Table with the words therein written, Blame no man for my Death, you know my hand-writing, So I cease to bee, John Taylor. I have been an evil doer but hope to find mercy with God for Christ his sake. Tis said having skil in the law, hee had so disposd of his p'sonal estate being £3000 that the law could take no hold of it. this I had from Mr Malden who had it from Mr Wood, who was there and saw him hang in the place. [Diaries and letters of Philip Henry, ed. M. H. Lee (1882) p259]
(1727) Pag 624 TIPTON Mr RICHARD HINKS ... His Successor Mr John Taylor suffer'd him to dwell in the Parsonage house upon easy Terms [Calamy (1727) p768-9]
(1860) THE SCHOOL. TAYLOR'S CHARITY. An old memorandum, found among the papers of the late rector of the parish, states that the Rev. John Taylor, in 1671, gave by will a rentcharge of £1/5/0 for the endowment of a school [said to be called the "new schoolhouse"] for teaching two poor children of the parish of Blymhill to read English, gratis; 5/0 thereof to be applied to the repairs of the school. This rent-charge is paid out of a parcel of land called Cock shutt Piece, situate at Catwell End, in the parish of Sedgley ... [GRIFFITH (1860) p342-3]
[Charity Commission for England and Wales – number 528501-1 (removed) Governing document: Will dated 13 December 1671. Charitable objects: "for the benefit of the said school in the parish of Blymhill"]

[fasther] William Taylor of Blymhill, Staffs c1590-....
m Alice -----
[? m 17 Aug 1617 Wednesbury: Alice Ellytte]
chn: John Taylor c 13 Aug 1620 Blymhill
Francis Taylor c 27 Nov 1625 Blymhill
Margery Taylor c 8 May 1623 Blymhill; m Henry Adams
Ann Taylor c 28 Nov 1630 Blymhill; m ----- Rock
Richard Taylor c 6 Oct 1633 Blymhill

John Taylor of Great Chatwell
m Elizabeth -----
chn: John Taylor c Jan 1661 Blymhill
Alice Taylor c of Great Chatwell 25 Apr 1664 Blymhill

(? Jan 1660.1) John the Sonne of John Taylor (of great c----) [and] Elizabeth his wife was baptized January the ---

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►Charles Osborne c1638-1684 **....-1684**

? c 23 Dec 1634 London Clerkenwell son of Thomas Osborne

i *minister at Bilston* 30 Oct 1684 Wolverhampton St Peter; Will NOT ON FMP

(had a grandson Charles Osborne who was a wealthy quaker) [SHAW II 163]

(Parochial Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)

chn: Charles Osborne c *sonn of Mr Charles Osborne curat of bilston* Aug 1668 Wolverhampton

Charles Osborne
chn: Ann Osborne c 26 Feb 1665.6 Harborne

Jane i *wife of Mr. Osborne of Bilson* 21 Mar 1681.2

Charles Osborne 1668-1729
m 21 Feb 1692 Dorothy Tonks
chn: Charles b 3 Sep 1697
Mary b 18 Apr 1700

Will (PCC) 28 Jan 1729

OSBORNE Charles & Dorothy Tonks 21 Feb 1692 “both of Bilston”
OSBORNE Charles son of Charles & Dorothy Quakers (not baptised) 3 Sep 1697 [St. Leonard’s]
OSBORNE Mary daughter of Charles & Dorothy (not baptised) 18 Apr 1700 [St. Leonard’s]

►Richard Ames 1663-1730 **1684-1730**
b 4 Jan 1662.3; c 20 Jan 1662.3 *son of William Ames of The Wyke in Shifnal, Salop clerk and Joan dau of John Bache of Chesterton in Worfield, Salop*
unm.
d 21 May 1730; i 23 May 1730 Bilston
(aged 18, as son of William of Wendham, Salop p.p., matriculated from Balliol College, Oxford) 5 Jul 1680 [FOSTER]
(B.A.) 1684
(Parochial Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1684-d
- (kept a very detailed account of village affairs in the parish register) [LAWLEY]
(sinecure Rector, Creswell, Staffs) 14 Sep 1693-d
- (presented by Humphrey Perry gentleman)
- (instituted) 14 Sep 1693
(Prebendary, Wolverhampton Monmore, Staffs) a1702-d
- (in office) 1702
(Vicar, Sedgley, Staffs) 5 Aug 1729-d
- (presented by John Ward [1st Viscount Dudley and Ward] 1704-1774)
- (instituted) 5 Aug 1729

Separated from Wolverhampton in 1723

►Richard Ames c1694-1737 **1731-1737**
b c1695 son of John Ames of Newcastle, Staffs
m Sarah .....; i *in the chancel* 25 Nov 1732 Bilston
d 27 Jan 1736.7 Stretton
(nephew of Richard Ames 1663-1730 **[SCD]**) [LAWLEY 68]
(aged 17, matriculated from Balliol, Oxford) 3 Jul 1712
(B.A.) 1716
(aged 23, ordained deacon by Lichfield) 15 Sep 1717
(Stipendiary Curate, Long Itchington, Warwicks) 24 Jul 1718
(M.A.) 6 Feb 1718.9
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 23 May 1719
(Vicar, Stretton-upon-Dunsmore, Warwicks) 4 Oct 1722-d
- (appointed) 4 Oct 1722
(Perpetual Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
- (appointed) 27 Jan 1730.1
[LAWLEY 94-5]

▌Edward Best (Vicar of Wednesbury St Bartholomew, Staffs) 1708-1782 **1737-1744**
b 2 Sep 1708; c 5 Sep 1708 Wednesbury *son of Edward Best (Vicar of Wednesbury St Bartholomew, Staffs) c1676-....* ***[SCD]***
m Mary -----
d *aged 73* 8 Jul 1782; i 12 Jul 1782 Wednesbury; Will (PCC) 2 Jul 1795
(aged 18, matriculated from St Mary Hall, Oxford) 24 Apr 1727 [FOSTER]
(B.A., Christ Church, Oxford) 1731
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 13 Jun 1731
(ordained priest by Rochester for Lichfield) 6 Mar 1736.7
(Perpetual Curate, Marchington [& Newborough], Staffs)
- (subscribed on appointment) 7 Mar 1736.7
(Perpetual Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 23 Apr 1737-1774
- (elected) 4 Feb 1736.7
- (appointed) 23 Apr 1737
(Vicar, Wednesbury St Bartholomew, Staffs) 23 Feb 1743.4-d
- (presented by the Crown)
- (subscribed on appointment) 23 Feb 1743.4
- (... who was fucceeded by Edward, son of the above Edward Best, 1743, who was vicar 39 years, and was here buried, July 12, 1782, aet. 74 years) [SHAW II 88]
(for his household accounts and sermons 1749-1781 see Staffordshire County Record Office NRA 36890 Best)
chn: John Best b *at 7.30pm* 29 Oct 1749; c 31 Oct 1749 Bilston St Leonard **[SCD]**
Edward Best b *at 12.20 am* 26 Jul 1751; c 26 Jul 1751 Bilston St Leonard

Sat. 21.[1752] -I rode to Wednesbury, where Mr. ------, Vicar of------, had appointed to meet me.[The society, by this time, had succeeded in renting a large room near to the present Bell Inn, Church Street, which they continued to use till 1760. At this time, and until 1782, the Rev. Edward Best was vicar of Wednesbury and incumbent of Bilston, a Christian gentleman and county justice, who 'scorned to arouse the brutal passions of his parishioners against' Wesley (Meth. Rec. March 21, 1901)] I rejoiced to find so great a change. Since he has known the pardoning love of God he has been swiftly going on from faith to faith, and growing not in knowledge only, but in love. [INTERNET]

►John Best 1749-1813 **1774-1813**
b *at 7.30pm* 29 Oct 1749; c 31 Oct 1749 Bilston St Leonard *son of Edward Best 1708-1782* ***[SCD]***
d 27 Mar 1813
(aged 18, matriculated from St John's, Cambridge) 8 Jul 1766
(B.A.) 1772
(ordained deacon by Lichfield *pro* Oxford) 14 Jun 1772
(Stipendiary Curate, Wednesbury St Bartholomew, Staffs) 23 Aug 1773

- (licensed) 23 Aug 1773
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 14 Nov 1773
(Fellow, Worcester, Cambridge)
(Perpetual Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 16 Apr 1774-d
- (appointed) 16 Apr 1774
(Vicar, Sedgley, Staffs) 12 Oct 1779-d
- (presented by John Ward 2nd Viscount Dudley & Ward 1725-1788)
- (as M.A., instituted) 12 Oct 1779
(Subdean, Wolverhampton College, Staffs)
(Prebendary, Wolverhampton Monmore, Staffs) 12 Feb 1780-d
- (presented by John Harley (Bishop of Hereford) 1728-1788 *qua* Dean of Windsor)
- (instituted) 12 Feb 1780

►William Leigh c1778-1858 **1813-1835**
b c1778 *son of Richard Leigh of Atherston, Warwicks gentleman*
d 12 Apr 1858
(aged 17, matriculated from Hertford, Oxford) 20 Nov 1795 [FOSTER]
(B.A.) 1800
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 31 May 1801
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 22 May 1803
(Stipendiary Curate, Rushall, Staffs) 31 May 1801-?1811
- (licensed) 31 May 1801
(Perpetual Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 26 Apr 1813-1835
- (elected) 1813
- (licensed) 26 Apr 1813
- (signed return regarding education of the poor) [PARL (1818)]
- (in office, of "Parsonage", Lichfield Street) 1835 [PIGOT]
- (replaced in office) a6 Feb 1836
(M.A., Worcester, Oxford) 1829
(Rector, Pulham, Norfolk) 1835-d

The episcopal chapel dedicated to St Leonard was rebuilt in 1825 at a cost of £9,235 of which sum the parliamentary commissioners granted £550 and the remainder was raised by a rate levied on the inhabitants. It is a neat edifice with a tower containing eight bells, and has 1,200 sittings of which 731 are free. The living is a perpetual curacy in the gift of the inhabitants, every householder both male and female being entitled to vote at the election of the minister. The present incumbent is the Rev. William Leigh [PIGOT (1835)]

►Horatio Samuel Fletcher 1808-1871 **1836-1871**
c 19 Jan 1808 Walsall St Matthew *5th son of Samuel Fletcher of Walsall, Staffs armiger and Sophia (.....)*
m Sarah Lester of Lester Street, Bilston; (aged 51, b Bilston) 1861 C
d 30 Apr 1871 aged 64; i Kensall Green Cemy, London
(of Oxford Street, Bilston) 1835 [PIGOT]
(aged 19, matriculated from Queen's College, Oxford) 8 Mar 1826
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 20 Dec 1829
(B.A.) 1830
(Perpetual Curate, Bilston St Mary, Staffs) 1830-p1835
- (presented by William Leigh c1778-1858 *qua* Perpetual Curate of Bilston St Leonard)
- (licenced) 20 Dec 1829
- (in office) 1835 [PIGOT]
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 23 Jan 1831
(Perpetual Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1836-d
- (elected) 6 Feb 1836
- (aged 44, b Walsall, of Lichfield Street, Bilston "Perpetual Curate of Bilston") 1851 C
- (aged 54, b Walsall, of Bilston "Perpetual Curate of Bilston") 1861 C
- (in office) 1870
chn: Henry Fletcher (aged 12, b Bilston) 1851 C
Howard Fletcher (aged 11, b Bilston) 1851 C
John Fletcher (aged 9, b Bilston) 1851 C

Sarah Sophia Fletcher (aged 16, b Bilston) 1861 C
Arthur Fletcher (aged 5 b Bilston) 1851 C

"St Leonard's Church, the original chapel of ease for Bilston township, was rebuilt in 1825, upon a large scale. It has a tower, eight bells and 2200 sittings, of which 750 are free. The interior was repaired, and partly remodelled, in 1846. The benefice is a perpetual curacy, in the patronage of the Inhabitants of Bilston, and incumbency of the Rev HS Fletcher, BA."

Vicars

►**Charles Lee 1827-1911** **1871-1908**
b 30 Mar 1827 Westminster *son of William Lee of Westminster wine-merchant and Mary (.....)*
m Sarah Ann ..... (aged 46, b Matlock Bath, Derbys) 1881 C
d 20 Jan 1911 Stratford-upon-Avon
(admitted sizar at St John's, Cambridge) 13 May 1846
(re-admitted pensioner) 12 Oct 1846
(matriculated) Michs 1846
(B.A., 17th Wrangler) 1850
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1850
(Stipendiary Curate, Derby All Saints) 1850-1
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1851
(Vicar, Leicester Christ Church) 1851-5
(M.A.) 1855
(Vicar, Bilston St Mary, Staffs) 1855-60
(Vicar, Haverstock Hill Holy Trinity, London) 1860-71
(Vicar, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1871-1908
- (elected) 1871
- (aged 54, b London, of Walsall Street, Bilston "Vicar of Bilston") 1881 C
- (aged 64, b Piccadilly St James, of The Vicarage, Walsall St, Bilton "Vicar of Bilston") 1891 C

(in retirement of Stratford-upon-Avon)
chn: Bernard B. Lee (aged 26, b Leicester "Ironfoundry Manager") 1881 C
Madeleine B. Lee (aged 23, b Bilston) 1881 C
Newton W.A. Lee (aged 17, b London "Factors Apprentice") 1881 C
Leslie W. Lee (aged 14, b London "scholar") 1881 C
Charles St Augustine Lee b 1870; (admitted pensioner at Trinity, Cambridge) 27 May 1889; (aged 20, b Haverstock Hill "Student of Theology Trinity College Cam) 1891 C

►**Gabriel Estwick Ford c1857-....** **1909-....**
(at University of London)
(B.A.) 1878
(ordained deacon by London) 1881
(Stipendiary Curate, Stepney) 1881-5
(ordained priest by Bedford) 1882
(Afternoon Lecturer, Stepney) 1883-5
(Vicar, Bristol Holy Trinity) 1885-98
(Rector, Birmingham All Saints) 1898-1901
(Rector, Birmingham St George) 1901-9
(Honorary Canon, Birmingham) 1905-9
(Vicar, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1909-p1920

►**Stephen Garrett c1881-....** **1934-....**
(at Fitzwilliam Hall, Cambridge)
(B.A.) 1906
(Vicar, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1934

►Richard Perry e1573-1613 **....-1613**
i *as The Reader of Bylston* 1 Feb 1612.3 Wolverhampton St Peter
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)

►Thomas Baddeley e1582-.... **?1622**
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
- (wrote a pamphlet "The Boy of Bilson") 1622 [LAWLEY 39] [SIMMS]

►Ralph Digby e1588-1633 **....-1633**
m Elizabeth .....; i 15 Jun 1618 Wolverhampton St Peter
i *as Mr Ralph Digbey Reeder of Bilston* 27 Dec 1633 Wolverhampton St Peter
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
- (in office) 1618

►Hugh Adkins e1600-1640 **1640**
d 1640; i Wolverhampton St Peter
(a nephew of Nicholas Adkins of Bilston)
(M.A., Oxford) [X FOSTER]
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
[LAWLEY 52]

►James Osborne e1581-1659 **....-1659**
**** Entry might confuse men of the same name*
d Nov 1659 [Lawley 52-3]
(matriculated sizar from St John's, Cambridge) Easter 1607 [VENN]
(Perpetual Curate, Barton-under-Needwood, Staffs)
- (as Minister, signed parish register) 29 Sep 1611
(ordained deacon by Peterborough) 22 Sep 1611
(ordained priest) 19 Sep 1613
(B.A.) 1614.5
(M.A.) 1618
(Rector, Camus juxta Bann, Derry) 1621-7
(Rector, Killowen) 1625-7
(?Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) ....-d
[LAWLEY 52-3]

►John Day e1644-1684 **....-1684**
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) ....-1684
[LAWLEY 55]

►William Leigh e1739-.... **?1779**
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
- (appointed) ?1779 [SOURCE LOST]

►John Poole e1795-
(as Rev. John Poole in High Street, Bilston) 1835 [PIGOT]

►Thomas Sing e1795-....
(as Rev. Thomas Sing in Oxford Street, Bilston) 1835 [PIGOT]

►George William White c1799-1867 **1836-1838**

b c1799 London *"of poor parents"* [SIMMS]
m Elizabeth Martha .....
d 7 Oct 1867
(aged 20, admitted sizar at St John's, Cambridge) 28 Jun 1819
(matriculated) Michs 1819
(B.A.) 1823
(ordained deacon by Chester *pro* Lichfield) 23 Mar 1823
(Stipendiary Curate, Darlaston St Lawrence, Staffs)
- (licenced) 8 Apr 1823
- (in office) 17 Dec 1834
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 3 Apr 1824
(M.A.) 1826
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston [? St Leonard], Staffs) 1836-8
(Stipendiary Curate, Netherton St Andrew, Worcs) 1838-43
(Rector, Darlaston St Lawrence, Staffs) 1843-67
chn: George Henry White b 19 May 1837; c 6 Jul 1837 Dudley St Thomas **[SCD]**

►James John Slade 1821-1907 **1850-1854**
c 12 Feb 1821 Wylye *1st son of Thomas Slade of Wylye, Wilts gentleman and Elizabeth (.....)*
d cFeb 1907 Axbridge RD, Soms
(aged 26, matriculated from St Edmund Hall, Oxford) 28 Jan 1847
(B.A.) 1851
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1850
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1850-4
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1851
(Stipendiary Curate, Kingswinford St Mary, Staffs) 1854-7
(M.A.) 1857
(Vicar, Netherton St Andrew, Worcs) 1857-77
(Rector, Kingswinford Holy Trinity, Staffs) 1878-?d

►James Shuttleworth Holden 1843-1916 **1867-1868**
b 18 Nov 1843 *2nd son of Edward Anthony Holden of Aston Hall, Derbys and Susan Drummond dau of George Moore of Appleby Hall, Lincs*
d 31 May 1916
(educated at Eton)
(aged 17, admitted pensioner at Trinity, Cambridge, but did not reside) 30 Nov 1860
(aged 18, matriculated from Christchurch, Oxford) 12 Jun 1862
(B.A.) 1866
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1867
(ordained priest) 1868
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1867-8
(Stipendiary Curate, Handsworth St Michael, Staffs) 1868-9
(M.A.) 1869
(Rector, Aston-on-Trent, Derbys) 1869-d
(Rural Dean, Melbourne, Derbys) 1908-16

►Joseph Jordan c1838-1888
b 15 Aug 1838; c 22 Jun 1841 Dudley St Thomas *son of Daniel Jordan of Dudley, Worcs ironmonger c1808-.... and Mary Ann (.....)*
m1 Elizabeth A. .....; (aged 20, b Dudley) 1861 C
m2 Elizabeth M.R. .....; (aged 31, b Woolwich) 1881 C
d *aged 50* 10 Nov 1888 Shanklin, Isle of Wight; Obituary *in* The Guardian 14 Nov 1888
(aged 12, b "Yovel") 1851 C
(aged 22, b Yeovil, of Dudley "shopkeeper (ironmonger)") 1861 C
(admitted pensioner at Clare, Cambridge) 17 Oct 1864 [VENN]
(matriculated) Michs 1864
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1867
(B.A.) 1868
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1868
(Stipendiary Curate, Wolverhampton St John, Staffs) 1867-8

(Stipendiary Curate, Wednesfield Heath, Staffs) 1868
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1870
- (in office) 1870 [CLERGY LIST]
(Vicar, Gailey-cum-Hatherton, Staffs) 1870-4
- (aged 33, b Yeovil, "Vicar of Gailey cum Hatherton", widower, lodging with George Lovatt at Hatherton) 1871 C
(M.A.) 1871
(Vicar, Ogley Hay, Staffs) 1874-9
(Vicar, Woolwich Holy Trinity) 1879-d
(Chaplain, Woolwich Royal Arsenal) 1879-d
- (aged 42, b Yeovil, of Woolwich "Vicar Holy Trin. Woolwich) 1881 C
chn: Ernest Daniel Jordan b cAug 1861 Dudley RD; (aged 9, b Dudley, Staffs) 1871 C; (aged 19, matriculated from Hertford College, Oxford) 20 Nov 1880; (B.A., Wadham College, Oxford) 1885; (ordained priest by Liverpool) 1901 [see CROCKFORD]

►Henry Thornton Dudley c1845-1903 **1870**
b c1845 *3rd son of Benjamin Wolley Dudley of Ticehurst, Essex clerk*
d cNov 1903 Glossop RD, Derbys
(aged 19, matriculated from Queen's College, Oxford) 17 Oct 1864
(B.A.) 1867
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs)
- (in office) 1870
(Stipendiary Curate, Sedgley, Staffs)
- (aged 26, b Ticehurst, Sussex, boarding with Vicar of Sedgley) 1871 C
(M.A.) 1871
(Stipendiary Curate, Aldridge, Staffs) Jul 1879—Sep 1881
- (in office) Jul 1879—Sep 1881 [FINCH II 67]
(Vicar, Bradwell, Yorks) 1881-p1889

►Charles Bruce Ward c1839-1892 **1870-1871**
b c1839 *1st son of Charles Ward of Maulden, Beds clerk*
m 22 Jan 1863 Cheadle: Maria 2nd dau of J.M. Blagg of Rose Hill, Cheadle, Staffs
d *aged 53* cMay 1892 Hayfield RD
(aged 17, matriculated from Oriel College, Oxford) 4 Nov 1856 [FOSTER]
(B.A.) 1860
(ordained deacon by Peterbrough *pro* Lichfield) 1861
(Stipendiary Curate, Uttoxeter, Staffs) 1861-2
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1862
(Stipendiary Curate, Oakamoor, Staffs) 1862-5
(M.A.) 1863
(Stipendiary Curate, Middleton, Lancs) 1865-70
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1870-1
(Vicar, Whitfield) 1872

►John Birch c1836-.... **1875-1877**
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1860
(Stipendiary Curate, Lower Gornal, Staffs) 1860-8
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1861
(Chaplain, Holly Hall, Dudley, Worcs) 1868-75
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1875-7
(Stipendiary Curate, Burslem St Paul, Staffs) 1878-81
(Vicar, Wednesfield St Thomas, Staffs) 1881-1915
[X CROCKFORD 1920]

►John Cresswell c1859-.... **1887-1908**
m Annie .....; (aged 42, b Walsall) 1901 C
- (aged 42, b Walsall, of 5 Wellington Road, Bilston "Clergyman Church of England") 1901 C
(at Lichfeld Theological College) 1882
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1884

(Stipendiary Curate, Bradley St Martin, Staffs) 1884-7
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1885
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston [? St Leonard], Staffs) 1887-1908
(Chaplain, Wolverhampton Union, Staffs) 1890-1908
(Vicar, Wolverhampton St James, Staffs) 1908-19
(Vicar, Shareshill, Staffs) 1919-25
chn: Norris J. Cresswell (aged 14, b Walsall) 1901 C
Cyril Leonard Cresswell b cMay 1890 Wolverhampton RD; (aged 10, b Bilston) 1901 C; (B.A., Cambridge) 1915; (clergyman) [see CROCKFORD]
Hilda A. Cresswell (aged 9, b Bilston) 1901 C
Dora M. H. Cresswell (aged 7, b Bilston) 1901 C

John Cresswell, M.A., of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge He is remembered as a very jovial fellow. He was a good preacher and used no notes. His son, Cyril, was also a parson, and his daughter married the Vicar of Bushbury. [SHARESHILL HISTORY W.I.]

►**Henry Silvester 1848-1925** **1896-1908**
b cAug 1848 West Bromwich RD, Staffs
m ....
d 7 Apr 1925
(matriculated non-collegiate, Cambridge) Michs 1876 [VENN]
(B.A.) 1880
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1889
(Stipendiary Curate, West Bromwich St Peter, Staffs) 1889-92
- (aged 42, b West Bromwich, widower of 207 G. Bridge St, West Bromwich "Curate of St Peter's") 1891 C
(ordained priest) 1890
(Stipendiary Curate, Wednesbury St Paul, Staffs) 1892-6
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1896-1908
- (aged 52, b West Bromwich, widower of 2 Bridge St, Bilston St Leonard "clergyman Church of England") 1901 C
(M.A.) 1902
(Stipendiary Curate, Sedgley, Staffs) 1908-12
(licenced to preach in the diocese of Lichfield) 1913-d
(in retirement of 30 Paget Road, Wolverhampton, Staffs)
chn: Kate Silvester (aged 15, b West Bromwich) 1891 C
Sidney H. Silvester (aged 3, b West Bromwich) 1891 C; (as Harry S.) 1901 C

►**Andrew Forster c1885-....** **1915-....**
(at Hatfield Hall, Durham)
(B.A.) 1911
(at St Aidan's Theological College)
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1909
(Stipendiary Curate, Bradley St Martin, Staffs) 1909-12
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1910
(Stipendiary Curate, in charge, Werrington, Staffs) 1912-4
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1915-p1920
(Perpetual Curate, Chell, Staffs) 1925-....
(Chaplain, Chell Institute, Staffs) 1927-....

►**John Lawley Brown c1910-....** **1937-1940**
(at St Paul's College, Burgh)
(at St John's College, Durham)
(L.Th.)
(B.A.) 1931
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1931
(Stipendiary Curate, Cannock, Staffs) 1931-4
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1933
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1937-40
(Vicar, Wilnecote, Warwicks) 1940-6
(Vicar, Basford, Staffs) 1946-....

Norman Gledhill (Vicar of Hilderstone, Staffs) 1909-1987 **1941-1944**
b 3 Oct 1909 [BMD]
d *aged 77* Mar 1987 Lichfield RD
(at St John's College, Durham)
(L.Th.) 1940
(B.A.) 1941
(at St Aidan's Theological College) 1937
(ordained deacon by Lichfield) 1941
(Stipendiary Curate, Bilston St Leonard, Staffs) 1941-4
(ordained priest by Lichfield) 1942
(Vicar, Stafford St Thomas) 1944-61
(Vicar, Hilderstone, Staffs) 1961-80
(in retirement of 20 Wissage Lane, Lichfield, Staffs)